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Sep 10th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC:

Our nations free enterprise system, as I understand it, is built on competition, to give many Americans the chance to start businesses and services to earn a living. This also provides a wider choice for consumers.

For several years I have used a small provider, Sonic.com in Santa Rosa, California, as my internet and telephone provider. This has worked out well for me. Two reasons stand out. First, when I used a large provider, which had a voice mail system, I could never get through to an actual person to explain a problem when I had one: all the options to press they offered were ones I didnt need. Being able to get through to a person who to whom I could explain my problem, what service or repair I needed, has been a boon to me. Second, having my internet and phone service through sonic.com saves me a considerable amount of money each year. Being a senior citizen, I appreciate this.

Years ago I had these services through a cable company; but the wire (or cord) that connected my computer into a larger cord was faulty. I frequently could not access my e-mail. The company claimed there was no problem, though one of their repairmen who came out tried it on his own personal computer and said Youre right; it isnt working. But tests run from the companys office said it did work. I mention this as another reason why consumers should have more options.

I urge you to continue to let smaller companies continue to exist. In my view, they should be encouraged, not driven out. If one giant company gets a monopoly on phone and internet services in my area, for me this will mean higher prices and poorer services.

Thank you.

Celeste MacLeod